Introduced by: Ruby Chow

76 - 294

MOTION NO. 2428

A MOTION calling upon the Department of Social and Health Services of the State of Washington to resume funding of the county's involuntary commitment program from the state general fund.

WHEREAS, Chapter 71.05 RCW places responsibility for the involuntary commitment of gravely disabled persons with counties, and

WHEREAS, Section 71.05.550 RCW states, "The state shall provide financial assistance to the counties to enable the counties to meet all increased costs, if any, to the counties resulting from their administration of the provisions of this 1973 amendatory act", and

WHEREAS, Section 71.05.390 RCW contains strong confidentiality requirements so that an individual's privacy will be protected, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social and Health Services of the State of Washington has begun funding its involuntary commitment obligation through Title XX of the Social Security Act, a federal act, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Department took this action because of an appropriation from the legislature which has proven inadequate to meet state mental health needs, including involuntary commitment as well as other community-based programs, and

WHEREAS, funding of the involuntary commitment program through Title XX does not meet the intent of Chapter 71.05 RCW, specifically Sections 71.05.550 and 71.05.390;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

The King County Council joins with the County Executive and
the King County Mental Health Administrative Board in protesting
the Department of Social and Health Services' decision to fund
the county's involuntary commitment program through Title XX of
the Social Security Act.

The King County Council calls upon the Department to resume its funding of the involuntary commitment program through the state's general fund. PASSED this 19th day of april KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON ATTEST: